

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

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R 120240 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1990

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 29

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS SUVA 313

MAY 12

FOR AIDAC AND DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR

EO 11652 N/ A

TAGS SWEL TN FJ

SUBJECT FIJI TRANSFERS US DONATED RELIEF SUPPLIES TO TONA

REFERENCE SUVA 285

1. GOF HURRICANE RELIEF COORDINATOR TAGILALA CONTACTED EMBASSY MAY 9 FOLLOWING VISIT HAAPAI GROUP TONGA TO ASSESS DAMAGE AND CALCULATE RELIEF NEEDS. TAGILAL REPORTS 1418 WOOD AND NATIVE CONSTRUCTION HOUSES, FIVE SCHOOL, TWO COMMUNITY BULDINGS AND ONE VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM DESTROYED. LOCAL FISH AND MEAT ADEQUATE. DAMAGED LOCAL ROOTS CROPS SUFFICIENT FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS AT WHICH TIME RATION ASSISTANCE WILL BE REQUIRED. TAGILAL AND GOT ESTIMATE NEED RATION SUPPLEMENT FOR 15,000 FOUR MONTH PERIOD.

2. AFTER CONTACTING EMBASSY FOR APPROVAL TAGILALA ARRANGING SHIP BALANCE TO TONGA USAID DONATED FLOUR TOTALLING BETWEEN 300 AND 400 TONS AND AS YET UNDETERMINED AMOUNT VEGOIL FROM FIJIS HURRICANE BEBE STOCKS. IN ADDITION ONE 3000 GALLON

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RUBBER WATER TANK BEING SIPPED REPLACE DESTROYED VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM. FIRST SHIPMENT FORTY TONS SUPPLIES DESPATCHED MAY 10, REMAINDER DUE FOR SHIPMENT WITHIN TEN DAYS TIME.

3. GOD ALSO ENDING MILK BISCUITS AND BABY FOOD DONATED FIJI IK AND NEW ZEALAND FOLLOWING HURRICANE BEBE.

4. ACCORDING TAGILAL TRANSFER ABOVE LISTED RELIEF TIEMS TO TONGA PLUS CONTINUATION ONGOING DISTRIBUTION RATIONS REMAINING 6,000 HURRICANE BEBE VICTIMS IN YASAWA AND ROTUMA AND 6,000 JULIETTE VICTIMS VANUA LEVU IN FIJI WILL COMPLETELY USE UP ALL US DONATED RELIEF SUPPLIES SENT FOLLOWING HURRICANE BEBE.

5. WITH DISPATCH THESE RELIEF SUPPLIES TAGILAL BELIEVE GOOD SITUATION IN HAAPAI NOW REASONABLY WELL IN HAND. THIS ASSESSMENT IN LINE WHAT TONGAN MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS TOLD EMBASSY OFFICIAL LATE APRIL (REFTEL).

6. EMBASSY BELIEVES MAJOR CONCERN NOW ONE OF REBUILDING RATHER THAN FEEDING.

7. GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND ANNOUNCED EARLIER THIS WEEK IT PROVIDING DLRS NZ 25,000 RELIEF ASSISTANCE TONGA.

8. EMBOFF TO MEET WITH DIRECTOR PEACE CORPS TONGA WHO IN SUVA WEEKEND MAY 12 DISCUSS NEED AND DESIRABILITY ANY FURTHER US ASSISTANCE. BECKER

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